GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:892
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002
CROSS BORDER TERRORISM
HANNAN MOLLAH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U. S. President had termed the terrorist organisation Lashkar-e-Toiba as a Kashmiri Organisation;

(b) if so, whether it affected our efforts in convincing the international community the role of Pakistan in cross border terrorism; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) In a statement on 20 December 2001, U.S. President George Bush had described Lashkar-e-Toiba as a Kashmiri terrorist organisation. The White House notice issued on the same day, which named Lashkar-e-Toiba as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist, described the organisation as the armed wing of the Pakistan-based religious organisation, Markaz-ud-Dawa-wal-Irshad.

(b) & (c) The international community, including the United States, recognises that terrorist organisations such as Lashkar-e-Toiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed are based in Pakistan.On 21 December 2001, the U.S. President called upon President Musharraf `to take decisive action against Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed and other terrorist organisations, their leaders, finances and activities`.